

To: Levine, Carolyn[Levine.Carolyn@epa.gov]
From: Maier, Brent
Sent: Tue 8/18/2015 4:19:34 PM
Subject: Please Review Draft Message to Sylvia Quast

Carolyn –

Does my draft message below to Sylvia capture what we discussed this morning regarding Ernesto Rodriguez? If this looks good, I will send on to Sylvia. Thanks.

Brent

Sylvia –

Carolyn Levine in OCIR called me this morning and we discussed Ernesto Rodriguez' request of last week and his interest in having Carolyn provide him with a contact for him to reach out to at DOJ. I know that you have been in direct discussions with the Navajo Attorney General since last Friday and Carolyn suggested that perhaps you could summarize where things stand with the claim form issue with respect to the Navajo and that Ernesto speaking to DOJ about this claims process issue with the Navajo at this time may not be useful given your ongoing discussions with the Navajo Attorney General. Carolyn suggested that you may be able to provide an update on where things now stand based on your discussions with the Navajo Attorney General which I could then send on to Ernesto.

Carolyn told me that they are expecting to post FAQs on the Gold King Mine website today and that we are expecting that some of the Q's and A's will address the claims process issue which may help clear up confusion. Please give me a call to discuss or if you think it would be useful to talk with Carolyn Levine in OCIR, she can be reached at 202.564.1859 or we could discuss with her together in a conference call.

Brent Maier

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From: Rodriguez, Ernesto (Heinrich) [mailto:Ernesto_Rodriguez@heinrich.senate.gov]

Sent: Friday, August 14, 2015 4:07 PM

To: Maier, Brent; Levine, Carolyn

Cc: Quast, Sylvia; Keener, Bill; Sullivan, Michael (Heinrich)

Subject: RE: EPA Follow Up on Claims Process Issue Related to Gold King Mine

Brent, thank you for reaching out to me on this, and for getting back to me before the weekend. This is an important matter to us, and I appreciate your efforts to get back to me quickly.

Carolyn,

I spoke with Brent this afternoon and he provided me with this information, but in conversing with Brent we decided that my office's request is going to be best addressed by the Department of Justice. We are looking for specific guidance from DOJ on SF 95; the Attorney General of the Navajo Nation is requesting that DOJ provide the Nation with formal guidance regarding whether a claimant will limit or waive future rights by using SF 95 to file a claim under FTCA.

I know that you are with EPA's Waste and Enforcement team in DC, but my hope is that you will point me in the right direction to get this in front of the right eyes at DOJ. I think that it would probably need to be someone at DOJ's torts branch, in the FTCA division. Can you help me get into contact with the right person over there?

I have cc'd Senator Heinrich's state outreach director, Michael Sullivan, on this email to keep him in the loop on this.

Again, thank you all for your quick responses on this issue. This issue is extremely important to Sen. Heinrich, and whatever help you can give us to get this in front of the right people faster is going to be a huge help.

Sincerely,

Ernesto Rodriguez

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